

**Department of Homeland Security
Information Analysis and Infrastructure
Protection
Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
for 13 May 2003**

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland)
www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- The Minneapolis Star Tribune reports nuclear watchdogs are concerned that elevated pools filled with spent fuel, at the two Minnesota nuclear plants, are less protected than the largely below-grade pools at many other plants. (See item [1](#))
- The Charlotte Business Journal reports US Airways Group Inc. and four other major airlines have matched American Airline's fare hike of \$5 each way, the first non-fuel-related hike in ticket prices in months. (See item [11](#))
- The Hartford Courant reports air packs, oxygen tanks, fire coats and flashlights were stolen from several eastern Connecticut fire departments in the past two months, most recently from a fire station in Coventry, causing concern for potential use by terrorists. (See item [24](#))
- Computerworld reports ongoing concerns about instant messaging security were heightened this week by the disclosure of six vulnerabilities in America Online Inc.'s Mirabilis ICQ IM client software. (See item [26](#))
- Saudi officials report that four separate overnight bombing attacks struck Western targets including residential compounds in Riyadh, the Saudi capital, causing an undetermined number of deaths and dozens of injured. (See item [30](#))

DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *May 12, Star Tribune* — **Governor worried about airplane attack on nuclear plants.** Governor Tim Pawlenty was worried enough that terrorists might fly a plane into one of Minnesota's nuclear power plants that he asked the federal government in mid-March to restrict the airspace over them. But the U.S. Transportation Security Administration, the FBI and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) turned down the requests. Assurances from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and managers of Xcel Energy's Monticello and Prairie Island nuclear plants indicated that such an attack would trigger "a small radiological leak at most." Nuclear watchdogs, however, believe that the plants remain vulnerable. Despite post-September 11 security upgrades, they say, terrorists could use airplanes or other means to attack some of the nation's 65 nuclear plants and 27 decommissioning plants, causing a fire that could send radiation as far as 50 miles away or even a nuclear meltdown. Monticello is 40 miles northwest of the Twin Cities, and the Prairie Island plant is in Red Wing, 28 miles to the southeast. **The watchdogs also say that elevated pools filled with spent fuel at the two plants are less protected than the largely below-grade pools at many plants. They say the terrorism risks are high enough to warrant packing most of the spent fuel into canisters and burying it until a permanent disposal site opens.** Source: <http://www.startribune.com/stories/462/3877159.html>
2. *May 09, US Newswire* — **Nuclear energy industry retains excellent safety ratings, according to WANO indicators. U.S. nuclear power plants continued to operate at excellent levels of safety in 2002, according to performance indicators compiled by the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO).** The nuclear energy industry last year set records in electricity production and efficiency, while also exceeding industry goals in keys areas like the industrial safety accident rate, unplanned plant shutdowns, and availability of key safety systems. For the fourth straight year the nation's 103 nuclear power plants achieved record electricity output. **Nuclear power plants in 31 states generated a record 780.2 billion kilowatt-hours (kwh) of electricity. That was enough to power 70 million U.S. homes and topped the 2001 production record by 1.5 percent.** "The 2002 nuclear plant performance results are outstanding, and they reflect the high standards that the industry sets for itself." said Joe F. Colvin, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) president and chief executive officer. Source: http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_national.htm?SMDOCID=comtex_2003_05_09_us_0000-2199-KEYWORD.Mississippi

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Chemical Sector

3. *May 12, Firehouse.com* — **Michigan firefighters contend with hazmat leak. A motorist called 911 after passing through what looked like a cloud of steam, with the smell of acid, around 8 p.m. Sunday, Local 4 reported. A leak in an 8,000-gallon tank of hydrochloric acid on the roof of the Marsh Plating Plant sent off the fumes, according to the station's reports.** The Ypsilanti Fire Department declared the leak a hazmat situation. They reportedly inspect the plant twice a year and are aware of the dangerous elements inside. Fire Chief Jim Roberts said he didn't want to scare residents, but wanted to make sure they understood the situation. "This is not to be treated lightly," Roberts said. **The rain and wind reportedly carried the fumes into nearby neighborhoods. Residents within a three-block radius north of Michigan Avenue were reportedly told to stay inside, close their windows, turn**

off all ventilation that would allow outside air to enter their homes and to head to the highest floor in their homes or building. The all-clear signal was given around 3:30 a.m. Monday. The leak has reportedly been contained. According to the company's Web site, Marsh Plating employs more than 150 people and provides metal coatings, mostly for the automotive industry.

Source: <http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=10417>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

4. *May 12, Government Computer News* — **Air Force will globally integrate security systems.**

An Air Force plan to bring all base security and force-protection programs under one directorship will get a boost from contracts awarded under the Integrated Base Defense Security System program. **The IBDSS request for proposals, released April 21 by the Force Protection Command and Control Systems Program Office at Hanscom Air Force Base, MA calls for sensors, software, wireless devices, and systems for surveillance, integrated command and control, and wide-area intrusion detection and tracking. The RFP's closeout date is May 27.** IBDSS "will be the centerpiece of [Operation Eagle Force] from an implementation standpoint," said Jeffrey H. Thurston, deputy director of force protection C2 systems at Hanscom.

Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/22032-1.html

5. *May 12, Rocky Mountain News* — **Northcom a growing force to fight terror.** Nearly 400 people work at Northcom's new \$90 million, 157,000-square-foot headquarters at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs. **Around groups of desks and tables, analysts and officials from more than a dozen federal agencies, including the FBI, CIA and military intelligence, comb through information on potential terrorist threats. Northcom calls this its Combined Intelligence Fusion Center. "What it attempts to do is collect intelligence from many national agencies and fuse it to help us identify threats in areas where we may need to take action,"** said Northern Command spokesman Lt. Col. Barry Venable. In a perfect world, as Venable puts it, "We'd like to play the away game, not the home game." By that he means getting wind of a plot hatched in a foreign country and destroying the terrorists before they can enter the United States.

Source: http://rockymountainnews.com/drmn/state/article/0,1299,DRMN_21_1954997,00.html

6. *May 10, New York Times* — **Senate panel votes to lift ban on small nuclear arms.** The Senate Armed Services Committee voted on Friday to repeal a 10-year-old ban on the development of small nuclear weapons, asserting that the United States must begin looking at new ways of deterring terrorist groups and so-called rogue nuclear powers like North Korea. **The Bush administration, which requested the repeal, said it had no plans to develop a new low-yield nuclear weapon. But it contends that the existing prohibition has had a limiting effect on weapons research at a time when the United States is trying to reconfigure its military to address post-Soviet threats. The measure goes before the full Senate in two weeks. The House Armed Services Committee is scheduled to take up the proposal on Tuesday.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/10/international/worldspecial>

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Banking and Finance Sector

7. *May 09, U.S. Department of the Treasury* — **U.S. Department of the Treasury issues final rules and proposed rule on customer identification programs for banks, savings associations, credit unions and certain non–federally regulated banks.** Section 326 requires the Secretary of the Treasury to jointly prescribe with each of the Agencies, the SEC, and the CFTC, a regulation that, at a minimum, requires financial institutions to implement reasonable procedures to verify the identity of any person seeking to open an account, to the extent reasonable and practicable; maintain records of the information used to verify the person's identity; and determine whether the person appears on any lists of known or suspected terrorists or terrorist organizations provided to the financial institution by any government agency. **This final regulation applies to banks, savings associations, credit unions, private banks, and trust companies.** Effective Date: This rule is effective June 9, 2003. Compliance Date: Each bank must comply with this final rule by October 1, 2003.
Source: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-11019.htm>
8. *May 09, U.S. Department of the Treasury* — **U.S. Department of the Treasury issues final regulation on customer identification programs for broker–dealers.** Section 326 requires the Secretary of the Treasury to jointly prescribe with the SEC a regulation that, at a minimum, requires brokers or dealers to implement reasonable procedures to verify the identity of any person seeking to open an account, to the extent reasonable and practicable; to maintain records of the information used to verify the person's identity; and to determine whether the person appears on any lists of known or suspected terrorists or terrorist organizations provided to brokers or dealers by any government agency. **This final regulation applies to brokers or dealers in securities except for brokers or dealers that register with the SEC solely because they effect transactions in securities futures products.** Effective Date: This rule is effective June 9, 2003. Compliance Date: Brokers or dealers subject to this final regulation must comply with it by October 1, 2003.
Source: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-11017.htm>
9. *May 09, U.S. Department of the Treasury* — **U.S. Department of the Treasury issues final rule on customer identification programs for futures commission merchants and introducing brokers.** Section 326 requires the Secretary of the Treasury to jointly prescribe with the CFTC a rule that, at a minimum, requires futures commission merchants and introducing brokers to implement reasonable procedures to verify the identity of any person seeking to open an account, to the extent reasonable and practicable; maintain records of the information used to verify the person's identity; and determine whether the person appears on any lists of known or suspected terrorists or terrorist organizations provided to futures commission merchants or introducing brokers by any government agency. **This final rule applies to all futures commission merchants and introducing brokers, except for futures commission merchants and introducing brokers that register with the CFTC solely**

because they effect transactions in security futures products. Effective Date: This rule is effective June 9, 2003. Compliance Date: Futures commission merchants and introducing brokers subject to this final rule must comply with it by October 1, 2003.

Source: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-11016.htm>

10. *May 09, U.S. Department of the Treasury* — **U.S. Department of the Treasury issues final regulation on customer identification programs for mutual funds.** Section 326 requires the Secretary of the Treasury to jointly prescribe with the SEC a regulation that, at a minimum, requires investment companies to implement procedures to verify the identity of any person seeking to open an account, to the extent reasonable and practicable; to maintain records of the information used to verify the person's identity; and to determine whether the person appears on any lists of known or suspected terrorists or terrorist organizations provided to investment companies by any government agency. **This final regulation applies to investment companies that are mutual funds.** Effective Date: This rule is effective June 9, 2003. Compliance Date: Each mutual fund must comply with this final rule by October 1, 2003. Source: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-11018.htm>

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Transportation Sector

11. *May 12, Charlotte Business Journal* — **Top airlines raise fares. US Airways Group Inc. and four other major airlines have matched American Airline's fare hike of \$5 each way.** Northwest Airlines on Monday became the sixth carrier to raise ticket prices, beginning June 1. Previous attempts by the major airlines to raise fares were rolled back when Northwest held out on hiking prices. American raised fares May 9, with Delta Air Lines Inc., United Airlines, U.S. Airways and Continental Airlines Inc. all following suit before Northwest. **The fare increase is the first non-fuel-related hike in ticket prices in months. J.P. Morgan analyst Jamie Baker said airlines are taking advantage of the government's planned four-month suspension of the \$2.50 per flight segment security fee, which has a maximum of \$10.** "We expect the more significant test to occur in October, when the security fees are once again implemented," Baker wrote in a research note Monday, according to Dow Jones Newswires. **By October, airlines will be faced with either rolling back their increase in base fares or testing consumers' willingness to pay more, Baker wrote.** Source: <http://charlotte.bizjournals.com/charlotte/stories/2003/05/12/daily7.html>
12. *May 12, nbc30.com* — **LaGuardia terminal evacuated after screeners lose suspect bag. A terminal at LaGuardia Airport was evacuated for an hour late Sunday when screeners lost track of a suspicious bag, the Transportation Security Administration said.** The evacuation was ordered at 7:15 p.m. after security screeners operating an X-ray machine for carry-on luggage at the Delta Air Lines terminal spotted **what appeared to be a weapon in a bag, TSA spokesman Mark Hatfield said. While hand-searching what they thought was the piece of luggage, they realized they had grabbed the wrong bag and a passenger had taken the suspicious bag into the terminal,** Hatfield said. Security officials then evacuated the terminal, swept the area and began to re-screen nearly 1,500 Delta and Northwest Airlines

passengers, creating severe delays. The terminal, one of seven, reopened at 8:25 p.m. The TSA spokesman said he didn't know what screeners thought they saw in the bag. No weapon was immediately found.

Source: <http://www.nbc30.com/news/2196187/detail.html>

13. *May 12, San Mateo County Times* — **Small explosion shakes passengers on flight. No major damage after case full of electronics blows up as it was being loaded into plane. A Hawaii-bound flight was grounded for several hours Sunday morning after a passenger's case exploded in the plane's cargo area.** San Francisco International Airport spokesman Mike McCarron said the small and **apparently accidental blast occurred inside a heavy fiberglass container filled with avionics test equipment moments after a baggage-handler put it down.** The baggage-handler complained of ringing in his ears, airport officials said, and all eight of the container's hinges blew off, but there was no major damage, according to the Transportation Security Administration. Airport Duty Manager Gerry Alley said Sunday night that although investigators originally thought a faulty battery prompted the blast, **they now believe it's possible it was caused by air pressure in the case itself, which had been on a flight from Salt Lake City earlier. None of the electronic equipment inside was ruined.**
Source: <http://www.sanmateocountytimes.com/Stories/0.1413.87~11268~1385872.00.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

14. *May 12, Associated Press* — **Strike by South Korean truck drivers cuts operations of world's third-busiest port. The South Korean government warned Monday that it will send in police if unionized truck drivers do not end a four-day-old strike that has crippled operation at the world's third-busiest port. The warning came shortly after the truck drivers voted Monday to continue a strike at the Busan port on South Korea's southeastern tip, where operations were running at 25 percent of capacity.** In talks mediated by the government, the Korean Cargo Workers Federation union and transportation companies met but failed to resolve the dispute over demands by the drivers for higher pay and lower fuel taxes. Prime Minister Goh Kun said the strike "was seriously damaging the economy" because the Busan port handles 80 percent of all container traffic in and out of South Korea, the world's 11th largest economy.
Source: [http://boston.com/dailynews/132/economy/Strike by South Korea an truck d:shtml](http://boston.com/dailynews/132/economy/Strike%20by%20South%20Korea%20truck%20d:shtml)
15. *May 11, Associated Press* — **Experts use growing arsenal of tools to scan inside containers.** With help from a laptop computer and a briefcase-sized gamma ray scanner, U.S. Customs inspector Chris Gertz can see through steel. His job is **to inspect the interior of cargo containers offloaded from ships entering the Port of Los Angeles. Gertz is looking for anomalies in the computer image, signs a nuclear device or biological or chemical weapon may be hidden inside.** Despite improvements, some security experts say **America's ports remain vulnerable to terrorist weapons smuggled inside shipping containers, which can be tampered with at any point in the shipping process. Some 20 million of the metal cargo boxes enter the United States each year.** "Right now, there is no way we can actually verify from a security standpoint that what is loaded into the container at the starting point is really in there," said Stephen Flynn, a former Coast Guard commander now with the Washington,

D.C.-based Council on Foreign Relations. **To provide that verification, security officials, port operators, and shipping companies are rushing to develop a safer cargo box.**

Source: <http://www.presstelegram.com/Stories/0,1413,204~21474~138551,5.00.html>

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Agriculture Sector

16. *May 12, Associated Press* — Agriculture officials find poultry disease in Kern county.

Agriculture officials have destroyed 342 birds in Kern, CA after a backyard flock of game fowl was found to be infected with Exotic Newcastle Disease for the first time outside a quarantined zone in Southern California. The birds, including pheasants, roosters and chickens, were destroyed earlier this week after a man reported several sick fowl to a task force set up to fight the disease, Larry Cooper, a state Department of Food and Agriculture spokesman, said Friday. Officials destroyed the man's 127 birds, as well as birds on two nearby properties. **The U.S. Department of Agriculture has quarantined a small area around Mojave and Palmdale. Cooper said it's unknown how the birds near Mojave became infected. The birds are in southeastern Kern County, which is near a quarantined area.**

Source: <http://www.heraldtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2003/0509/APN/305090896/font>>

17. *May 11, Associated Press* — Farmers' insurance may change. Weather, terrorist attacks, and other factors are making it harder to buy crop insurance and producers may have to try new coverage strategies this year, Montana Agriculture Department Director Ralph Peck said. Peck, in remarks last week, said hail insurance shrunk as Montana went through five years of drought. He said the coverage may not grow back, even as moisture conditions improve. **Peck also said insurers were hurt by losses from the September 11, 2001, attacks and an outbreak of mold problems in wetter climates. As a result, two large companies no longer offer crop insurance in Montana and others have set caps.** Industry officials estimate private hail insurance coverage available in Montana have decreased by between \$7 million and \$10 million.

Source: <http://www.billingsgazette.com/index.php?id=1s/2003/05/12/build/local/z-montana.inc>

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Food Sector

18. *May 10, Associated Press* — Florida inspectors find fruit fly larvae in Mexican peppers.

Potentially damaging Mexican fruit fly larvae have been found in hot peppers shipped to Florida from Mexico, agriculture officials said Friday. **Florida agriculture officials are asking produce markets and shoppers to help contain the pest before it can infect citrus crops. The larvae were detected in two produce markets in Pinellas Park, near St. Petersburg.** Mexican fruit fly larvae haven't been seen in Florida since 1972, Agriculture Commissioner Charles Bronson said in a statement. The larvae, which can attack citrus if they spread to the trees, were found in Manzano peppers.

Source: <http://www.heraldtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2003>

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Water Sector

Nothing to report.

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Public Health Sector

19. *May 12, Washington Post* — **Smallpox strategies shifting. With the campaign to vaccinate hundreds of thousands of health care workers for smallpox now at a standstill for lack of volunteers, local public health officials are worried they might have to resort to a riskier plan for fighting the deadly disease: immunizing doctors and nurses after an outbreak begins.** President Bush, who received the smallpox vaccine himself in December, set a goal of vaccinating 500,000 health care volunteers in the first round of inoculations. But five months after he announced the plan, only about 35,000 have been inoculated, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently said that 50,000 is a more realistic objective. **For many jurisdictions, that has meant a greater emphasis on preparing to vaccinate workers in the days after an outbreak begins. And because the vaccine can cause so many adverse effects, some officials are worried that those health care workers who wait to be inoculated until after an outbreak starts might not be available when they are needed most.** There is another risk in waiting until after an event, experts say. Although the vaccine works in the overwhelming majority of those who get it, a small percentage are still not immune after the first attempt.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A43174-2003May11.html>

20. *May 11, New York Times* — **Military hardware adapted to fight SARS. Authorities in Singapore have adapted devices originally developed for a military purpose, seeing in the dark, to help combat the spread of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). The new version of the device, called an infrared fever sensing system, detects passengers' body temperatures, spotting people with a fever, one of the symptoms of SARS, without having to touch them or even make them stop walking.** The system, which is said to be easy to use, was developed in a week. Now, instead of having to pass a phalanx of inquisitive nurses, passengers arriving in Singapore simply walk past a camera. Those who appear to have a fever are taken aside for a closer look by a technician. The device has become so coveted by immigration authorities and other officials around the world who are hoping to spot infectious people that the creators of the system are planning to begin commercial production.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/12/technology/12SCAN.html>

21. *May 11, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory* — **New information about drug resistance. Scientists from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the University of California at Berkeley obtained high-resolution images of a protein complex found in bacteria that repels a wide range of antibiotics.** The images offer new insight into how bacteria survive attacks from different antibiotics, a growing health problem called multidrug resistance. As the

team learned, these robust defenses are rooted in the protein complex's remarkable ability to capture and pump out a spectrum of structurally diverse compounds. **The research may inform the development of antibiotics that either evade or inhibit these pumps, allowing drugs to slip inside bacteria cells and kill them.**

Source: <http://www.jbl.gov/Science-Articles/Archive/PBD-drug-resistance.html>

22. *May 09, Department of Health and Human Services* — **Guidelines for bioterrorism funding announced.** Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Tommy G. Thompson announced that guidelines have been released for the department's \$1.4 billion bioterrorism cooperative agreement program for states, territories, and municipalities. **The program will help state and local governments upgrade public health infrastructure and health care systems to better prepare for and respond to bioterrorism and other public health emergencies.** CDC administers the public health preparedness awards totaling \$870 million while HRSA funds the hospital preparedness cooperative agreements totaling \$498 million. "Each year we are making strides in improving the readiness of the public health departments and the health care systems across the country. **CDC's guidance this year focuses on seven areas that include preparedness planning and readiness assessment, surveillance and epidemiology, laboratory capacity for handling biologic agents, laboratory capacity for handling chemical agents, health alert network and information technology, communicating health risks, and health information dissemination, and education and training.**

Source: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2003pres/20030509.html>

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Government Sector

23. *May 09, General Accounting Office* — **Homeland security: Justice Department's project to interview aliens after September 11.** The General Accounting Office has published report GAO-03-459 concerning the Justice Department's project to interview aliens after September 11. DOJ searched its databases for aliens that fit certain characteristics relating to type of visa, gender, age, date of entry into the United States, and country that issued the passport, and identified 7,602 names for interview. **According to law enforcement officials, attorneys for interviewees, and immigration advocates in six U.S. Attorney districts, law enforcement officers who conducted the interviews adhered to DOJ guidelines for the project. The guidelines stressed that the project's objective was information gathering, not criminal investigation, and that participation was to be voluntary.** Attorneys for interviewees and immigration advocates agreed that the law enforcement officers adhered to project guidelines, but expressed the view that interviewed aliens did not perceive the interviews to be truly voluntary. **As of March 2003, law enforcement officers had interviewed 3,216 aliens—about 42 percent of the names on the list.** However, the list contained problems such as duplicate names and data entry errors, making it difficult to determine how many interviews remained to be completed. Full report: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-03-459>
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d03459high.pdf>

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Emergency Services Sector

24. *May 09, Hartford Courant* — **Thefts stir new fears potential for use by terrorists seen.** What if the terrorists were dressed like firefighters, in flame-retardant coats with flashlights and two-way radios, their faces concealed by masks connected to air packs? How would the firefighters distinguish them? **That scenario has taken tangible new meaning for Connecticut firefighters since air packs, oxygen tanks, fire coats and flashlights were stolen from several eastern Connecticut fire departments in the past two months, most recently from a fire station in Coventry.** "After the state police gave us their update last night, that was definitely the consensus of the people here," said Floyd Chaney, chief of the Mohegan Tribal Fire Department and president of the New London County Fire Chiefs' Association. "That is definitely a concern we are looking at, but right now our hands are tied. What are we looking for? We're looking for someone dressed as one of our own."
Source: <http://www.ctnow.com/news/local/hc-2firetheft0509.artmay09.0.5315474.story?coll=hc-headlines-local>

25. *May 01, Customs and Border Protection Today* — **Federal agents foil smugglers' ploy to use look-a-like CBP border enforcement vehicles.** In a new twist on the southern border drug trade, federal agents seized almost a ton of marijuana concealed inside a pair of sport utility vehicles (SUVs) painted to resemble official federal law-enforcement vehicles – in this case, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Border Patrol vehicles. **The two vehicles, marked with the well-known CBP Border Patrol logo, were intercepted before dawn on February 19, 2003 near Palominas, Ariz. by Border Patrol and Customs agents. The vehicles, including a 2000 Dodge Durango and a 2001 Ford Expedition, had been detailed to pass as official units complete with painted on government license plates. Inside the SUVs, agents discovered large bundles containing approximately 1,900 pounds of marijuana.**
Source: <http://www.cbp.gov/xp/CustomsToday/2003/March/other/foil.xml>

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Information and Telecommunications Sector

26. *May 09, Computerworld* — **Security problems persist with instant messaging. Security problems relating to the unfettered use of consumer chat software on corporate networks are fueling the adoption of tougher security measures and more commercial-grade products, users and analysts said.** Ongoing concerns about instant messaging (IM) security were heightened this week by the disclosure of six vulnerabilities in America Online Inc.'s Mirabilis ICQ IM client software. Security analysts for some time have been warning that **unchecked use of such software could cause dangerous holes in enterprise firewalls, leading to sensitive corporate data being exposed on public networks and files being transferred in an unprotected fashion.**
Source: <http://www.computerworld.com/softwaretopics/software/groupware/story/0,10801,81104,00.html>

27. *May 09, Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)* — **Australian police enlist hackers to fight terrorism.** Australian police are offering 20 computer IT specialists the opportunity to become

highly paid operatives working for the New South Wales (NSW) counter-terrorist unit. The successful applicants will join a newly created unit within the police Special Service Group that will be called the State Electronic Evidence Branch. **The computer specialists will examine computer drives and even microchips from cars and mobile phones of people suspected of having links with terrorist organizations.** Superintendent Tony Jeffries said **the cyber sleuths would examine computer pathways for hidden information and undergo training in forensic analysis so that any potential data relating to terrorist activities in NSW could be used in court in prosecutions of suspects.**

Source: <http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2003/05/08/1052280377317.html>

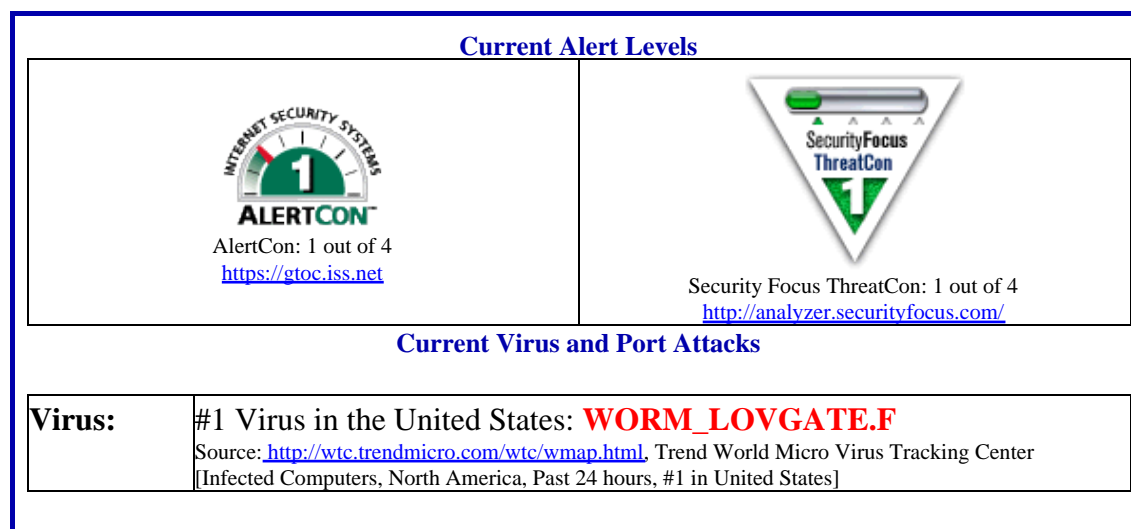
28. *May 08, Washington Technology* — **State CIO hunts for Wi-Fi security violators. The new Delaware Department of Technology and Information has employed sniffer software to see whether state agencies have deployed wireless fidelity, or Wi-Fi, networks that meet state standards for such networks.** Each month the department checks a different location for non-standard, or "illegal," use of a Wi-Fi local area network. **During the course of one such check, the department discovered a serious violation,** Delaware Chief Information Officer Tom Jarrett Jarrett said "I told the agency to cease and desist or in two days I would take them off the network." **Because the agency was "running wide open" with Wi-Fi, they were putting the entire network community at risk from hacker and virus attacks,** he said.

Source: http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/1_1/daily_news/20719-1.html

29. *May 07, vnunet.com* — **UK ecommerce hit by failure to report attacks. Consumer and corporate trust in ecommerce will be seriously damaged if businesses do not report electronic crimes,** says the UK's online police force. **The National Hi Tech Crime Unit (NHTCU) is trying to convince companies to report cyber attacks. Only 56 per cent of larger companies report electronic crime to the police,** and the figure is believed to be even lower among smaller organizations. "It's vitally important that people trust their technology," Len Hynds, head of the NHTCU, told delegates at last week's Infosecurity conference in London.

Source: <http://www.crmassist.com/news/dispnews.asp?i=92871/TD>>

Internet Alert Dashboard



Top 10 Target Ports	137 (netbios-ns), 80 (www), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 11364 (----), 445 (microsoft-ds), 113 (ident), 25 (smtp), 139 (netbios-ssn), 8627 (----), 4662 (eDonkey2000) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center
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General Sector

30. *May 13, New York Times* — Explosions rock Western enclaves in Saudi capital. Four separate overnight bombing attacks struck Western targets including residential compounds in Riyadh, the Saudi capital, causing an undetermined number of deaths and dozens of injured, Saudi officials and diplomats said today. The United States Embassy in Riyadh said 44 Americans had been injured, some of them seriously, and there were reports of at least 10 deaths. Secretary of State Colin L. Powell, travelled to Saudi Arabia from Jordan today. **"It seems we have lost 10 Americans killed," Mr. Powell told Reuters shortly after arriving at Riyadh airport from Jordan.** "Many other nationalities were also killed." At an early morning news conference in Amman, **Mr. Powell that the violence had likely been carried out by Al Qaeda, since it bore its hallmarks. Al Qaeda has been weakened but not been destroyed, Mr. Powell said, noting that he could not yet confirm completely that Al Qaeda was responsible for the attacks.** He said the United States and other nations must increase their efforts to fight terrorism. There was no official Saudi report of deaths from the attacks. But live pictures from the scene attested to the power of the blasts. The walls and buildings of one apartment building, once apparently four stories high, were completely blown out, and the blackened exterior walls were blasted completely from their foundation. The compounds are home to American, British, Italian and other Westerners, as well as to Saudis and citizens of other Middle Eastern countries. Three blasts came almost simultaneously just before midnight local time, and a fourth followed shortly afterward, Saudi officials said. **The United States Embassy said that at two of the compounds the booby-trapped vehicles came to the rear gate and detonated there, prompting a gunfire with security guards, but in some cases the explosives-laden vehicles breached the walls and exploded within the compounds. At the third compound, vehicles crashed through the gates, killing the armed guards on duty.**

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/13/international/middleeast/1_3BOMB.html

31. *May 12, New York Times* — Prosecutors in Bali bombing take a morning to set out case. It took a team of prosecutors all morning on Monday to read out the 33-page indictment of the first man to go on trial for the bombing of two Bali nightclubs last year that killed more than 200 people. The defendant, a 40-year-old mechanic named Amrozi, sat alone in the middle of the courtroom, wearing a loose white shirt and rubber sandals and jiggling his knees nervously. **Together with other plotters, the indictment said, Amrozi "talked about the Muslim obligation toward other Muslims who have been repressed and slaughtered by the United States and its allies in Afghanistan, Palestine, Kashmir and Iraq."** It accused him of buying more than a ton of explosives and delivering to Bali a minivan that was used in the bombing. He faces a possible death penalty on four counts of terrorism. **Prosecutors say more than 30 other men will also go on trial here in Bali, seven months after the explosions that killed mostly young Western partygoers.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/12/international/asia/12CND-B ALL.html>

32. *May 12, Reuters* — **Dutch start trial of suspected Islamic militants.** Twelve suspected Islamic militants accused of helping to recruit al Qaeda fighters in the Netherlands went on trial on Monday on charges that included "helping the enemy in a time of armed conflict." **The accused were arrested in raids across the Netherlands last year and are suspected members of the Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat, which is fighting the Algerian government. They are accused of providing financial and logistical support to al Qaeda and recruiting fighters for a "holy war," including two Dutchmen killed in January 2002 in an encounter with Indian soldiers in Kashmir.** The Dutch secret service has warned that Islamic militants linked to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network are recruiting young men in mosques, cafes and prisons to fight against the United States.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A44183-2003May 12.html>

33. *May 11, USA Today* — **May tornado count sets record.** Tornadoes tore their way across Kentucky and Illinois early on Mother's Day as they continued a record-breaking count of 434 tornadoes that have been sighted during the first 10 days of May. **"It's the longest stretch of outbreaks that I can recall," said Dan McCarthy, meteorologist for the federal Storm Prediction Center. "It's been an incredible week," said McCarthy, who has been in the weather business for 25 years.** The storms broke a record set in 1999, when 188 tornadoes struck the nation from May 1 through May 10. At least 45 people have died in the tornadoes. By comparison, there were an average of 44 tornado deaths per year from 2000 through 2002.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/weather/news/2003-05-11-tornadoes-ma_y_x.htm

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